

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of San Jacinto College, located in Harris County, Texas. For more than six decades, San Jacinto College has established itself as an educational trailblazer in the greater Houston area. The college has an outstanding reputation for providing affordable, high-quality instruction and training in more than 200 degrees and certificate programs.

On September 18, 1961, San Jacinto College first opened its doors to the citizens and communities of East Harris County in a rented storefront in downtown Pasadena, Texas. The newly-formed institution was named the East Harris County Union Junior College. Their initial enrollment of 876 students was, at the time, the largest for any junior college in Texas. In its second year of operation, the college was awarded full accreditation by the Texas Association of Colleges and Universities. A few decades later, in December of 1995, the college adopted its current name, the San Jacinto Community College District.

Over the past 60 years, San Jacinto College has opened additional campuses and centers, including San Jacinto College North in 1975, San Jacinto College South in 1979, a Martine Technology and Training Center in 2016, and a Generation Park Campus in 2020. The college also oversees the LyondellBasell Center for Petrochemical, Energy, and Technology in Pasadena and the EDGE Center at the Houston Spaceport in Houston.

To date, San Jacinto College has awarded certificates and associate degrees to more than 93,000 graduates. Additionally, since 1980, 175,000 continuing enrollments have helped create a skilled workforce across the greater Houston region. For their outstanding efforts in 2017 and 2021, the Aspen Institute recognized San Jacinto College as one of the top five community colleges in the nation.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent several of San Jacinto College's campuses and centers and congratulate them for more than half a century of excellence in education. I have no doubt that they will continue to enrich the workforce and surrounding communities for decades to come.

HONORING ALICIA TULLO AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Alicia Tullo was born in Mindanao, Southern Philippines. She attended the San Pedro College School of Nursing and earned her bachelor's degree

in nursing from Far Eastern University in the Philippines. She also earned a bachelor's degree in Health and Human Sciences from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida. She later earned a master's degree in Nursing Administration and Education from Mountain State University, West Virginia.

Mrs. Tullo has held several positions in the medical field. She is so passionate about her field that she has dedicated her time to teaching others. Mrs. Tullo has worked as a Nurse Educator at Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami Dade College School of Nursing, Everest University in Healthcare Administration programs, and the American College for Medical Careers in Orlando.

Mrs. Tullo was previously the Director of Nursing Services at John F. Kennedy Hospital in Palm Beach, Florida. She also owned and operated a medical billing company and consulted in physician practice management. Mrs. Tullo also owned and operated a free-standing breast imaging & diagnostic center in Maitland, Florida. She has held the position of Program Director at Remington College and is currently an adjunct professor.

Her contributions to our community do not end there. Mrs. Tullo is a member of Rotary International. She previously served on the Board of Trustees for the YMCA/YWCA, Community Health Services of Muscatine County, Iowa. She is currently serving as the President of the Philippine Nurses Association of Central Florida. Mrs. Tullo also organized a nutrition program for an Elementary School in a remote village in the Southern Philippines and conducts medical missions to remote villages in the Southern Philippines every 2 years.

Mrs. Tullo is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, an Honor Society in Nursing. She currently serves as Board of Trustees for the Philippine Nurses Association of America Foundation providing humanitarian relief services to victims of disease and disasters in the Philippines.

She is a Girl Scouts leader and lifetime member. She has served as a lector and Eucharistic minister at various churches for over 50 years. Mrs. Tullo has served as the Board of Directors for the Philippine Cultural Foundation of Florida, which works to educate Filipino Americans and the general public about the culture of the Philippines. She is also an active member of the Florida Action Coalition, which aims to advance the nursing profession and ensure that all Floridians can access safe, high quality health care.

Mrs. Tullo is married to a physician and has one daughter.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. MARK E. HAMISTER

HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Mark E. Hamister, who passed away on August 20, 2021, at the young age of 69.

Mr. Hamister was born on October 18, 1951, in Western New York, where he lived

most of his life. Mr. Hamister's love of Western New York led to his unwavering devotion to our region and dedication to improving the lives of its residents.

Mr. Hamister's entrepreneurial spirit began at 15 years old when he started two businesses, a neighborhood lawn mowing business and Kenmore Engine Service. Later, while part of Junior Achievement he invented the O-Cello sponge. While attending Rochester Institute of Technology, he established RIT Students Cooperative, Inc. From RIT he worked his way to become the Administrator of the Shire at Culverton Assisted Living Facility. On June 1, 1977, he officially launched his career after buying an assisted living residence in LeRoy, NY and founded National Health Care Affiliates, Inc. After improving his first assisted living residence, he purchased others over the next 44 years. In 1998, he entered the professional sports business. He was awarded an expansion franchise in the Arena Football League for Buffalo, the Buffalo Destroyers. Mr. Hamister grew Hamister Group, LLC into one of the top investors in middle-market hotels and senior housing residences. Today, Hamister Group, LLC manages over 20 properties that employs over 900 people, spanning seven states.

Dedicated to making Buffalo, and Western New York as a whole, the best place it could be, Mr. Hamister was willing to work with anyone to help improve our region. Mr. Hamister was involved in numerous local organizations with community business leaders that worked to improve the City of Buffalo. He was actively involved in several local civic groups, boards of directors, and organizations, including the Republican National Committee, Invest Buffalo Niagara, the Erie County Industrial Development Agency, Empire State Development, Erie County Cultural Resources Advisory Board, University at Buffalo, Rochester Institute of Technology, Shea's Performing Arts Center, and Buffalo Seminary. His involvement and dedication to his community was recognized with numerous well-deserved awards for his entrepreneurship and leadership. These awards include the Buffalo Business First Lifetime Achievement Award, being named a Junior Achievement Hall of Fame Laureate, and in 1992, Mr. Hamister was named as an Entrepreneur of the Year for New York State. Nationally recognized repeatedly, as one of the fastest growing companies with Inc. 500/5000 magazine and a member of the Inc. 500/5000 Hall of Fame.

Mr. Hamister also founded the Mark E. Hamister Foundation, which supports education, healthcare, and community service programs. The foundation primarily supports Western New York, Raleigh, NC and Southern Florida. The Foundation has supported organizations such as the University at Buffalo, Roswell Park, Cleveland Clinic, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church of Boca Raton, the Junior Achievement program, and the National Comedy Center to name a few.

Mr. Hamister was a devoted son, husband, father and grandfather. He had a strong faith and instilled his values into his family and Hamister Group, which laid the foundation of the company's culture.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mr. Hamister's life, in honoring his work, and all his achievements.